

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A rug having an underside surface detachably attachable to and in direct contact with a step ~~and a riser and including at least a pair~~ of hook and loop fasteners for securing said rug in contact with ~~and directly to the~~ step and riser, said rug comprising in combination:
  - a) a bendable layer of material; ~~said layer including first and second edges;~~
  - b) one of a first hook fastener and a first loop fastener secured to said underside surface ~~proximate one of said first and second edges;~~
  - c) one of a second hook fastener and a second loop fastener secured to said underside surface ~~proximate another of said first and second edges;~~
  - d) another of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener adapted for direct attachment to the step;
  - e) another of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener adapted for direct attachment to the riser;
  - f) at least one of a first female snap lock and a first male snap lock secured to said underside surface ~~proximate one of said first and second edges~~ and extending from ~~[[the]]~~ said underside surface of said rug;

g) at least one of a second female snap lock and a second male snap lock secured to said underside surface proximate another of said first and second edges and extending from [[the]] said underside surface of said rug;

h) another of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock adapted for direct attachment directly to the step; and

I) another of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock adapted for direct attachment directly to the riser.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A rug as set forth in Claim 1 [[2]] wherein said layer of material is rectangular and including four corners.

5. (Currently Amended) A rug as set forth in Claim 4 wherein ~~including~~ each of said first female snap lock of a pair of said first female snap locks is [[being]] disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners and each second female snap lock of a pair of said second female snap locks being disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners.

6. (Currently Amended) A rug as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said

second loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

7.     **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 6 wherein said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap locks and wherein said second loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

8.     **(Currently Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 4 wherein ~~including~~ each snap lock of one of two first pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners and each snap lock of one of two second pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two further corners of said four corners.

9.     **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 8 wherein one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two first pairs of snap locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two second pairs of snap locks.

10.    **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said other of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the step and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 1 ~~[[2]]~~ wherein said other of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the step and wherein said other of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

12. **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said other of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adhering to the step and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

13. **(Previously Amended)** A method for detachably attaching the underside of a rug to a step wherein the depth of the step is less than the width of the rug, said method comprising the steps of:

a) attaching at least one of a female snap lock and a male snap lock extending from the underside of the rug to another of a male snap lock and a female snap lock extending directly from the step;

b) further attaching at least one of a female snap lock and a male snap lock extending from the underside of the rug to another of a male snap lock and a female snap lock extending directly from the riser;

c) engaging one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener secured to the rug with another of a hook fastener and a loop fastener attached directly to the step;

and

d) further engaging one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener secured to the rug with another of a hook fastener and a loop fastener attached directly to the riser.

14.     **(Cancelled)**

15.     **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of bending the rug around the edge of the step into proximity with the riser.

16.     **(Cancelled)**

17.     **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 [[14]] including the step of adhering one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener to the step.

18.     **(Currently Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 [[14]] including the step of adhering one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener to the riser.

19.     **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of adhering at least one of the female snap lock and the male snap lock to the step.

20.     **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of

adhering at least one of the male snap lock and the female snap locks to the riser.

21-23. **(Cancelled)**